



PHOTOS BY DAVID PERRY | dperry@herald-leader.com

KSD student Travis Zornoza, 19, at right, dressed as Col. Harland Sanders for his taped presentation to Minnesota North Academy (shown on the screen at left). Zornoza's video was about the history of KFC.

Signs of progress

The MegaDEAFConference 2009 took place Wednesday at the Kentucky School for the Deaf in Danville. The event was a two-hour interactive videoconference to unite deaf schools from six other states and Canada and to present 15-minute student-produced projects.

HERALD-LEADER STAFF REPORT



KSD outreach staff viewed projected images from school sites. Audiences in twenty states, Washington, D.C., Canada, and the United Kingdom viewed the teleconference.



KSD students Travis Zornoza, 19, left, Sandy Frank, 19, Kellie Martin, 19, and Emma Riley, 17, were VJs, or video jockeys, during the conference. They provided transitions between presentations and presented their own videos.

Foes challenge constitutional

By Jack Brammer

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FRANKFORT — Despite concerns it might not be constitutional, Gov. Steve Beshear signed into law Wednesday a bill eliminate new competition for existing payday lenders and promised to work on capping interest rates they can charge.

Consumer advocates who have pushed for more restrictions on payday lenders — which can charge upwards of 400 percent interest — praised Beshear for his position on capping payday-lending rates, saying it would help Kentuckians.

But a spokesman for payday-lending businesses disagreed.

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Ires Watson, a spokesman for the Community Financial Services Association of America, called a c "flawed logic"

A cap on payday advances, he said, "would drive lenders from Kentucky and deprive families of access to emergency credit, increase bounced checks and bankruptcies."

Beshear said in a statement Wednesday

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District turns away state aid, improves

UNION COUNTY SCHOOLS CHIEF LAUNCHES IN-HOUSE PROGRAM

By Jim Warren

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When Frankfort Independent School Superintendent Rich Crowe wanted help boosting his district's performance, he bypassed the nearby state Department of Education and headed for Union County, a small school district in Western Kentucky.

"I want to talk to their superintendent, Josh Powell, about the things he's doing, and see if we can replicate some of those things at Frankfort Independent," Crowe said before traveling to Union County earlier this week. "I'm interested in the results he's gotten."

Crowe isn't the only one suddenly interested in Powell and the Union County Public Schools district, which has a total of about 2,300 students.

Powell started getting attention late last

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